

CLASSIFICATION <u>S-E-C-R-E-T</u> SECURITY INFORMATION		REPORT	50X1-HUM
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SOURCE Zhurnal Mikrobiologii, Epidemiologii, i Immunobiologii, No 1, 1953.

DESCRIPTION OF THE JANUARY 1953 ISSUE OF THE
USSR "JOURNAL OF MICROBIOLOGY, EPIDEMIOLOGY, AND IMMUNOBIOLOGY"

The January 1953 issue of Zhurnal Mikrobiologii, Epidemiologii, i Immunobiologii is the first issue of this periodical received by FDD since 1947. Between 1947 and 1952, the journal was published in the USSR (references to it were found in bibliographies in other Russian journals); however, apparently it was not sent abroad. A description of the January 1953 issue follows.

According to the title page, the journal is published in Moscow by Medgiz and is an official organ of the Ministry of Public Health USSR. The editor in chief is V. D. Timakov. The deputy editors are G. V. Vygodchikov and V. M. Zhdanov; the Secretary of the Editorial Board is V. A. Yaroslavskiy. The Editorial Board consists of V. I. Vashkov, F. T. Grinbaum, I. I. Yelkin, M. S. Zakharova, M. N. Lebedeva, M. M. Mayevskiy, G. P. Rudnev, V. D. Solov'yev, M. N. Solov'yev, and V. L. Troitskiy.

The January (No 1) issue begins with an editorial which outlines the plan of the journal's work for 1953. This editorial refers to the economic tasks set by the 19th Party Congress in October 1952, and states that medical activities must be expanded as provided by the current Five-Year Plan and by the decisions of the 19th Party Congress. It mentions improvements in public health conditions that have already been achieved in the USSR, and contrasts the peaceful efforts in the USSR with the preparations for bacteriological warfare in capitalistic countries -- preparations which have reached the stage of actual use of bacteriological warfare weapons, as exemplified by "application of bacteriological warfare weapons by American-British interventionists in Korea and China."

In conclusion, the editorial states that the Editorial Board has accepted the thematic plan for 1953, and outlines this plan issue by issue as follows:

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No 1. General problems of microbiology and epidemiology in connection with the prophylaxis of infectious diseases. The problem of influenza.

No 2. Medical and sanitary service at the great construction projects. The problem of scarlet fever.

No 3. Intestinal diseases (dysentery).

No 4. The problems of measles, whooping cough, and diphtheria.

No 5. I. P. Pavlov's physiological teaching as applied to problems of microbiology. The problem of the modifiability of bacteria.

No 6. The work of sanitary-epidemiological stations. The problem of intestinal infections.

No 7. Zoonoses: their epidemiology, prophylaxis, and control.

No 8. Influenza: its epidemiology, prophylaxis, and control.

No 9. The epidemiology and prophylaxis of scarlet fever, measles, whooping cough, and diphtheria.

No 10. Problems of chemotherapy. The production of bacterial preparations and improvement of their quality.

No 11. General problems of microbiology, virology, and epidemiology.

No 12. Rickettsioses. Wound infections and anaerobic infections.

In addition, the editorial states that the Editorial Board intends to publish general reviews, articles devoted to new achievements of science and new discoveries, and articles dealing with historical questions, specifically questions pertaining to priority in scientific discoveries. The editorial adds that material of this type will be published without regard to the general plan outlined above.

The editorial is followed by a general article by I. I. Yelkin (a member of the Editorial Board), entitled "Toward New Advances in Epidemiology." Yelkin also starts with the decisions of the 19th Party Congress and the impact of these decisions on the USSR economy. He goes on to say that cholera, smallpox, plague, filariasis, and relapsing fever were eradicated in the USSR long ago; that typhus has been eradicated in a majority of the republics and oblasts and is on the way to complete disappearance in the whole of the USSR; and that the incidence of typhoid, diphtheria, and some other infectious diseases has been reduced to a minimum. He states that the 35 years' experience (1917 - 1952) in the prophylaxis of infectious diseases must be collated from the theoretical standpoint so that a sound basis will be formed for future work and so that it may become feasible in this work to combat infectious diseases in their totality and on a broad scale rather than by the solution of separate local problems. To achieve this, Yelkin says, the purity of Marxist-Leninist theory in epidemiology must be safeguarded, all attempts to explain the epidemic process on a purely biological basis thoroughly exposed, and an end made to the underestimation of the significance of social and economic factors in epidemiology.

In his discussion of specific diseases which follows, Yelkin states that, in the prophylaxis of intestinal diseases, dysentery forms the main problem. This, he declares, is due to difficulties in the early diagnosis of this

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disease, and these difficulties in turn are due to the fact that the Grigor'yev-Shiga bacilli, which predominated 20-30 years ago and produced toxic forms of acute dysentery, have been largely replaced by Flexner and Sonne bacilli that produce a light form of dysentery; the clinical aspects and diagnosis of the latter bacilli have not yet been investigated sufficiently. In the group of respiratory diseases, the most important problem, in Yelkin's opinion, is that of influenza. Yelkin mentions in this connection large-scale tests that are being carried out with anti-influenza vaccines developed by USSR virologists. He further states that some of the most urgent tasks are the development of effective vaccines against virus influenza, measles, whooping cough, and scarlet fever, as well as the isolation of more highly immunogenic tuberculosis vaccine strains than those in use at present. Yelkin then discusses measures to be taken for the elimination of natural foci of infectious diseases (extermination of rodents and insects, etc.), states that improvement in the design of stationary and mobile disinfection chambers is desirable, and that the level of the work of sanitary-epidemiological stations should be raised. He recommends that disinfection chambers heated by electricity or gas be installed in large cities and states that an adequate supply of aerosol generators of improved design is needed.

The general section of the journal is followed by a section entitled "Original Contributions." This section consists of 13 papers, seven of which are on virus diseases. [Abstracts of all these papers will appear in FDD Periodical Abstracts No 241 and 243.]

The next section of the journal, "History of National Science," consists of two papers: "I. I. Mechnikov on the Etiology of Cancer," by L. A. Zil'ber [to be abstracted in FDD Periodical Abstracts No 241] and "V. K. Vysokovich -- One of the Most Prominent Russian Microbiologists," by B. I. Kleyn. The latter gives a review of Vysokovich's activity, on the 40th anniversary of his death.

A section entitled "Abstracts of Papers Received by the Editors" follows. It consists of 15 abstracts of unpublished papers. [Six of these are to be published in FDD Periodical Abstracts No 241.] According to a footnote, the complete papers corresponding to the 15 abstracts are deposited at the Library of the Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology imeni N. F. Gamaleya, Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, 33 Shchukinskaya Ulitsa, Moscow. The footnote adds that the papers in question may be published at some future date in other journals.

Of considerable interest is a classified bibliography compiled by B. A. Ivanov, "USSR Publication During the Second and Third Quarters of 1952 on Problems of Microbiology, Immunology, Infectious Diseases, and Epidemiology," which appears in the section on "National Literature." The concluding section of the journal, "Foreign Literature," consists of 23 abstracts of papers on influenza, edited by Ye. S. Geronimus.

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